

**School & Library Network
Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
September 15, 1999**

Members Present: Bill Black, Phil Lindley, Reginald Palmer, Gary Nichols, Joanne Steneck, Barry Crommet

Members Absent: Barry McCrum, Stephen Gilbert, Greg Scott

1. Minutes. Minutes from the June 9, 1999 meeting were approved with one correction; "circuit riders have visited 96 sites since April 1999."

2. Quarterly Report on Status of Circuit Rider Program.

Brad Potter from Northern Maine Technical College summarized the status of visits by the three circuit riders. They have conducted 243 on-site visits through August 31, 1999 (plus 559 phone contacts and 514 e-mail contacts). Most common problems are e-mail configuration, and problems caused by failure to update software. The MSLN/Circuit Rider Website (www.msln.net/circ-rider), contains instructual information on updating browsers, e-mail, caching, blocking software, etc. Reggie Palmer asked if much time was spent on Y2K readiness. It was agreed that Y2K information would be added to MSLN website. The next quarterly report will include a spreadsheet listing sites visited and services provided each.

3. Report on Connections.

Art Henry reported that 25 sites have applied for ATM and 17 have been installed (14 of these have already been approved for E-Rate). 185 T1's have been installed (representing 215 sites) as of September 15, 1999. Art also reported that the Americorps projected recently chose the six hub sites. They include: Portland Public Library; Lewiston Technical Center/Adult Ed.; Caribou Adult Ed; Northern Penobscot/Lincoln Adult Ed; Bangor Public Library and Topsham/Merrymeeting Bay Adult Ed. Board members asked Joanne to invite Kathy Schulz, the program director, to the next Board Meeting for an update on the status of the project.

4. Report status of Network firm UNET.

Gerry Dube and Jeff Letourneau reported on the status of the network, which now has increased Internet bandwidth of 9 T1's from 6 T1's. All central equipment has tested as Y2K compliant.

5. Tour of Library.

The Board toured the newly remodeled Bangor Public Library and all were extremely impressed, particularly with patron usage of the Internet.

Next meeting will be Wednesday October 27 at 10:00 am in the Commission First Floor Conference Room, in Augusta.